

III. REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for extending the courtesy of a telephone interview on February 13, 2006. It was agreed that claim 14 should have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 and not 35 U.S.C. 102 as stated in the last office action.

Claims 1-8, 14-15, 16-18, 20-21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Eddy.

The present invention is methods and devices for the secure storage of funds. It features that the TMS at all times knows the present location of any PSD that is dispensing postage (page 3, lines 6-8 and 32). In particular, the TMS immediately notifies the local post office of a PSD which is outside its licensed area (page 3, lines 8-11). This operation is automatically done without any user or customer action, thereby ensuring that the correct post office receives the proper credit for the postage, thus avoiding the need for any invention by the customer or user in notifying the system of a change in location of the meter.

In contradistinction, Eddy requires action on the part of the user or customer (see column 2, lines 44-47, and 50-55; column 6, lines 41-43; column 14, lines 22-25; column 18, lines 37-38). There is absolutely no disclosure of immediately doing this present location notification.

The independent claims have been amended to recite the immediate notification of the present location concept. Since this is not in Eddy, the rejection of the above claims should be withdrawn.

Further, since there is no suggestion of this concept in Eddy, the above claims are unobvious over Eddy, and the rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103 should be withdrawn.

Claims 9-13, 19 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eddy in view of Gravell.

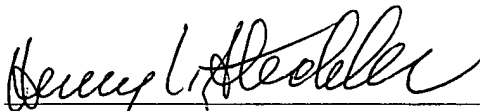
Similarly, Gravell fails to disclose the immediate notification of present location concept (see column 4, lines 8-11 "...when a customer initiates a call..."). Thus combining it with Eddy does not result in the present invention. Hence, the rejection of claims 9-13, 19 and 22 should be withdrawn.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.



Respectfully submitted,



Henry Steckler
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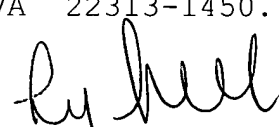
February 21, 2006
Date

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